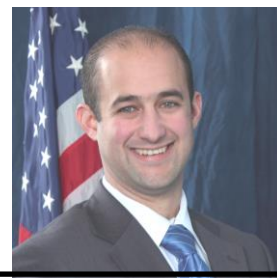


NEWS FROM DEPUTY PRESIDING OFFICER

ROB CALARCO



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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8th Annual “Play for Peace” Tournament Held

Tournament in memory of Marcelo Lucero raises funds for Head Start

MEDFORD, NY: Over the weekend the 8th Annual “Play for Peace” Tournament was held at the Patchogue-Medford Youth Soccer League’s fields on Sipp Avenue. More than 500 players, spectators, coaches and volunteers came together on a day of record-breaking temperatures.

“This was our best year yet,” stated Deputy Presiding Officer Rob Calarco. “This year we’ve had more teams, more sponsors, more spectators and more donors to our dinner than ever. The best part is that the funds raised for the tournament will go to a very worthy cause.”

Deputy Presiding Officer Calarco first organized the tournament in 2009 in response to the murder of Ecuadorian immigrant Marcelo Lucero, while he was an aide to Legislator Jack Eddington. Since then it has grown to include women’s teams and a children’s soccer clinic hosted by the New York Cosmos. In 2013, the tournament first included a “champion’s dinner,” donated by local restaurants and where the players all have a chance to sit together and eat when the games are finished.

“This tournament has become one of the signature events of the summer for the soccer-playing community,” stated Deputy Presiding Officer Calarco. “This could not be done without the partnership of the Patchogue-Medford Youth Soccer League and a host committee of dedicated volunteers who work all year to make this event as success.” Volunteers from Church of the Nazarene, St. Francis de Sales and Suffolk Federal Credit Union spent the day tending to the players and serving dinner after the games.

This year’s funds will be donated to Long Island Head Start’s scholarship program. Corporate sponsors of the event include HealthFirst, Gershow Recycling, Suffolk County Police Benevolent Association, TriTec Real Estate, Brookhaven Memorial Hospital, Suffolk Transportation Service and Bridgehampton National Bank. Coca-Cola donated 40 cases of Dasani Water and Powerade to keep the players hydrated. More than 30 local businesses and restaurants sponsored individual teams or donated food to the dinner.

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2016 Women's Division Winner



2016 Men's Division Winners

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Deputy Presiding Officer Rob Calarco represents the 7th Legislative District which includes Patchogue, East Patchogue, North Patchogue, Medford and Gordon Heights. Smaller portions of Blue Point, Bellport, Middle Island Fire Island are also included in the District. He is Chairman of the Government Operations, Personnel, Housing & Consumer Protection committee, Vice Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, as well as a member of the Health Committee and the Ways & Means Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature.